

Application Serial No.: 09/828,341
Art Unit: 2624

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for verifying a document comprising:
first means for providing a first electronic image of a document;
second means for providing a second electronic image of a document, said second electronic image being a scanned copy of a printed version of said first electronic image; and
third means for comparing said first and second electronic images and providing an output in response thereto, wherein said output signifies whether said printed version of said first electronic image is a successful print and causes a prohibition of additional printed versions from being produced if said output is signified to be a successful print.
2. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said second image is derived from said first image.
3. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said second means includes a scanner.
4. (Original) The invention of Claim 3 wherein said second means includes a printer.
5. (Original) The invention of Claim 4 wherein said scanner is mounted to scan a document printed by said printer to provide said second image.
6. (Currently Amended) The invention of Claim 5 further including means for adding a fingerprint to said printed version which becomes a part of said second image.
7. (Original) The invention of Claim 6 further including means for printing said fingerprint on said document.
8. (Original) The invention of Claim 7 wherein said scanner is adapted to scan said fingerprint and provide a fingerprint output signal in response thereto.

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9. (Currently Amended) The invention of Claim 8 further including means responsive to said fingerprint output signal for ~~inhibiting~~ disabling said printer when said fingerprint of said printed version is not detected in an image that is purported to be a scanned copy of said printed version.

10. (Original) The invention of Claim 5 further including means for detecting a print restriction with respect to said first image.

11. (Original) The invention of Claim 10 further including means responsive to said print restriction and said third means for disabling a second print of said document.

12. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said first means includes a personal computer.

13. (Currently Amended) The invention of Claim 12 wherein said first image is ~~provided to said computer via~~ obtained from a network.

14. (Original) The invention of Claim 13 wherein said network is the Internet.

15. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said third means includes software stored on a computer readable medium.

16. (Original) The invention of Claim 15 wherein said software is stored in memory in a personal computer.

17. (Original) The invention of Claim 15 wherein said software is stored in memory in a scanner.

18. (Original) The invention of Claim 1 wherein said third means includes means for converting said first image to text.

19. (Original) The invention of Claim 18 wherein said third means includes means for converting said second image to text.

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20. (Original) The invention of Claim 19 wherein said third means includes means for comparing said text representing said first image to said text representing said second image.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for verifying a printed document comprising:
a computer for providing a first electronic image of a document; a printer coupled to said computer;

a scanner adapted to scan a document printed by said printer to provide a second electronic image of said document, said second electronic image being a scanned copy of a printed version of said first electronic image; and

software for comparing said first and second electronic images and providing an output in response thereto, wherein said output signifies whether said printed version of said first electronic image is a successful print and causes a prohibition of additional printed versions from being produced if said output is signified to be a successful print.

22. (Currently Amended) The invention of Claim 21 further including means for adding a fingerprint to said printed version which is then becomes a part of said second image.

23. (Original) The invention of Claim 22 further including means for printing said fingerprint on said document.

24. (Original) The invention of Claim 23 wherein said scanner is adapted to scan said fingerprint and provide a fingerprint output signal in response thereto.

25. (Original) The invention of Claim 24 further including means responsive to said fingerprint output signal for inhibiting disabling said printer when said fingerprint of said printed version is not detected in an image that is purported to be a scanned copy of said printed version.

26. (Original) The invention of Claim 21 further including means for detecting a print restriction with respect to said first image.

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27. (Original) The invention of Claim 26 further including means responsive to said print restriction and said software for disabling a second print of said document.

28. (Currently Amended) The invention of Claim 21 wherein said first image is ~~provided to said computer via~~ obtained from a network.

29. (Original) The invention of Claim 28 wherein said network is the Internet.

30. (Original) The invention of Claim 21 wherein said software is stored in memory in a personal computer.

31. (Original) The invention of Claim 30 wherein said software is stored in memory in a scanner.

32. (Original) The invention of Claim 30 wherein said software includes means for converting said first image to text.

33. (Original) The invention of Claim 32 wherein said software includes means for converting said second image to text.

34. (Original) The invention of Claim 33 wherein said software includes means for comparing said text representing said first image to said text representing said second image.

35. (Currently Amended) A method for verifying a document including the steps of:
providing a first electronic image of a document;
providing a second electronic image of a document, said second electronic image being a scanned copy of a printed version of said first electronic image; and
comparing said first and second electronic images and providing an output in response thereto, wherein said output signifies whether said printed version of said first electronic image is a successful print and causes a prohibition of additional printed versions from being produced if said output is signified to be a successful print.